



City of Gaithersburg Press Release

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For Immediate Release

Splash into May with Water Safety

Gaithersburg, MD (April 19, 2021) As part of National Water Safety Month in May, the City of Gaithersburg is teaming up with the City of Rockville and the Stop Drop and Play Children's Museum to offer Water Safety Kits. The free kits include "Stewie the Duck Learns to Swim" book, at least seven water safety activities with materials, and two recipes. Kits are available for pick up on Saturday, May 8, 2021, from 10 to 11 a.m. at the [Gaithersburg Aquatic Center](#) at 2 Teachers Way in Gaithersburg, and the Stop Drop and Play Children's Museum at 9882 Main Street in Damascus (supplies limited; one free kit per family). Register [here](#) starting Wednesday, April 21 to reserve your free kit and learn more about available swim classes.

Drowning is the leading cause of accidental death for children ages 4 and younger and the second leading cause of accidental death for children younger than 14, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The National Institutes of Health states that taking part in formal swim lessons reduces the risk of drowning by 88%. This is an alarming statistic — but it's also something that we have the power to change through education, awareness and training.

The indoor Gaithersburg Aquatic Center is open year round. Due to restrictions during the pandemic, it is currently open by reservation only for lap swimming and water walking. Shallow and Deep Water workout classes are held there as well. Should Montgomery County health regulations permit, the outdoor Water Park at Bohrer Park, with its tropical setting and exciting water slides, will open for the season on Saturday, May 29. The Water Park is celebrating its 30th anniversary in 2021.

For more information contact City of Gaithersburg Aquatics Superintendent Kegan Kim at kegan.kim@gaithersburgmd.gov or call 301-258-6445.

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